from Small Industry Associations including Chambers of Commerce.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Establishment of a Trade Fair Exhibition Centre at Bombay

813. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a great demand and potential for establishing a permanent Trade Fair Exhibition Centre at Bombay; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) and (b) A suggestion has been made that a permanent Trade Fair Exhibition Centre may be established at Bombay. Besides techno-ecnomic considerations, the proposal involves aspects such as participation by the State Government. Central Government and other agencies. It is not possible to indicate, at this stage, the course of action.

"Abolition of Import Duty on Timber"

814. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that various State Governments have urged the Central Government to abolish import duty on timber so that India's forests can be preserved;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what steps are being taken to abolish the import duty on timber so as to encourage the import of timber and to preserve the forests?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) and (b) No representation has been received from State Governments to abolish import duty on timber.

(c) The basic Customs duty on wood has been reduced in the year 1985 from 60 per cent to 10 per cent in order to encourage import of timber and to preserve the forests.

Pollution Caused by Fertilizer and Iron Ore Plants at Mangalore

815. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that the Chemical and Fertilizer plant as also the Kudremukh Iron Ore Plant situated at Mangalore in Karnataka are causing air and water pollution; and

(b) if so what steps are being taken to reduce the pollution level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) and (b) These plants have air and water pollution potential. The plants have installed air pollution control equipment to control emission of air pollutants. They have also taken necessary water pollution control measures as per direction of the Karnataka State Polllution Control Board.

Income Tax Arrears of R.S.S.

816. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question No. 1556 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 10th May, 1988 and state:

(a) what is the amount of income-tax arrears pending against the Rashtriya Swayam Sevak Sangh (RSS), yearwise; and

(b) when was tax exemption granted to R.S.S. on income from Guru Dakshina and for what reasons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) Income-tax arrears pending against the R.S.S. are as under:

Asstt. Year.	Arrear demand
	Rs.
1962-63	1538
1970-71	2216
1984-85	2450
1985-86	1660
1986-87	730
	8594

(b) The Guru Dakshina received by RSS from its members does not constitute income for income-tax purposes. Therefore, question of granting exemption does not arise

Plans to bring Waste, Barren and Degraded Land under Green Cover

817. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any specific plans to bring the huge waste, barren and degraded lands available in the country under green cover;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard and what progress has been made during the last one year in this direction; and

(c) what is the exact role played by the National Wastelands Development Board towards the implementation of these plans in the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) and (b) The National Wastelands Development Board was set up in 1985-86 to bring under productive use wastelands in the country through afforestation. In the last three years, a total area of about 5.04 million hectares has been convered under the afforestation programme, which includes 1.77 million hectares in 1987-88.

(b) The National Wastelands Development Board is the nodal agency for monitoring the afforestation programme in the country and is also responsible for the implementation of Centrally Sponsored Scheme on afforestation.

Area under Forests

818. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what have been the areas under reserved forests, protected forests and private forests in the country during the last three years; Statewise:

(b) what were the targeted areas for such forests in the Seventh Five Year Plan and what are the achievements;

(c) what steps are being taken to achieve the targets to help create healthy environment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) Details of areas under reserved forests, protected forests and unclassed forests in the country during the years 1983-84, 1984-85 and 1985-86 are given, States